



PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION

Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

April 18, 2017

Dear 1400 Street Tree Inventory Volunteers,

On Arbor Day 2017, the Urban Forestry Commission, on behalf of the City of Portland, will honor all of you with the Group Bill Naito Community Trees Award.

Your service to the city, like Bill Naito's own, has furthered the cause of the urban forest in myriad ways that will be felt for generations. For the future of the street tree population depends not only upon the data about the more than 218,000 trees you joined forces to collect over the course of seven years, but also upon your continuing efforts to use that data to benefit the canopy in your neighborhoods.

Because of your efforts, the city could assess the vulnerability of the street tree population to pests and diseases, and thereby, remove maples from its Approved Lists, while encouraging everyone to plant alternative species. Your efforts revealed the lack of evergreens being planted, and the city increased the number of approved evergreens by more than 20 species. Your data showed the need for increased canopy in many low income neighborhoods, which resulted in the number of large-form trees being planted at schools through the Learning Landscapes Program. Finally, not only did you collect this all-important data, some of you contributed to the mapping database now available to the public online.

Your contribution to enhance, preserve, and maintain the street tree population is on-going. You are the very people who are helping to implement the planting and replacement goals that your data collection made possible. Using the more diverse planting lists that grew out of the inventory data, you are leading neighborhood plantings; you are holding neighborhood young tree pruning workshops; you are holding educational workshops; you are leading the effort to nominate Heritage Trees. The Urban Forestry Commission salutes your efforts and is honored to honor you with the 2017 Group Bill Naito Community Trees Award at a ceremony at **Portland's Arbor Day Festival on April 22, 2017 at 1pm, Mt Scott Park.**

With sincerest congratulations,

Mark Bello, Urban Forestry Commission Chair
Catherine Mushel, Education and Outreach Chair on behalf of the Urban Forestry Commission

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Sustaining a healthy park and recreation system to make Portland a great place to live, work and play.
portlandoregon.gov/trees • Amanda Fritz, Commissioner • Mike Abbaté, Director

